

Applicants respond to outstanding rejections as follows.

Claims 19-20, 23 and 26-28 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 over Shida et al. (U.S. Patent 6,060,207).

Claims 19, 21, 23 and 26-28 were rejected under 35 U.S.C.103 over Shida (U.S. Patent 6,060,207) in view of Goodall (WO 97/33198).

Claims 19, 21-23, and 26-28 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 over Goodall (WO 97/33198).

Those rejections are traversed.

It has been acknowledged that Shida does not disclose the cycloalkyl group recited in independent claim 29.

To address that deficiency, the Goodall document has been cited.

The combination of Shida and Goodall is not proper. Among other things, the two documents address distinct polymer systems. Shida reports particular acrylate compounds whereas Goodall reports poly-norbornene-type polymers. Those polymers of Shida and Goodall are synthesized by different protocols and are recognized as being clearly different materials. Persons skilled in the art would have had simply no inclination or ability to combine features of those distinct polymers as proposed by the instant rejection.

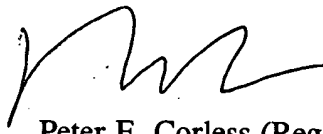
Goodall also does not suggest polymerized acrylate groups as claimed.

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In view thereof, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections is requested.

It is believed the application is in condition for immediate allowance, which action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'P. Corless', is written over the typed name.

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